

## Recent Uses of Non-binomial Works

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The erroneous use and implied adoption of early, non-binomial works on mollusks by recent authors have prompted this note of warning (see Jean Cate, 1960, and T. A. Garrard, 1961). Although there are many nomenclatorially invalid works which employ descriptive polynomials, I think four are worthy of mention because some workers are likely to use them in the future.

The eleven volumes of the *Neues Systematisches Conchylien-Cabinet* (1769-1795) written by Martini and Chemnitz were declared non-binomial and invalid nomenclatorially by Opinion 184 of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in 1944. Evidently issued as part of volume 10 was an index, the "Namen Register" (1788), which was assembled by J. S. Schröter. Although not specifically mentioned in Opinion 184, this index is merely an alphabetically arranged list of vernacular and Chemnitzian descriptive Latin names. Such entries as *Buccinum ex sanguine adpersum* and *Bulla achatina sinistrorsa* speak for the Index's unavailability. Cate (1960, p. 49) used the name *Mitra nigra* (Schröter, 1788), but the earliest valid usage appears to be *Mitra nigra* (Gmelin, 1791). It might be mentioned that Pfeiffer's "Kritisches Register" (Kassel, 1840, 112 pp.) is binomial.

Another non-binomial work, deceiving at first glance, is G. Karsten's *Museum Leskeanum*, vol. 1, 320 pp., 3 pls., Leipzig, 1789. In the main, Karsten follows the Linnaean binomial system and gives good descriptions and figure references for species now credited to Gmelin, 1791. Fortunately, for the sake of stability, a few polynomials appear, a fact which I believe renders the entire work unavailable. Examples are: (p. 152) *Mya Vulsella minor* Chemnitz; (p. 173) *Arca Rhomboidalis J. Orient.* Chemn.; and (p. 186) *Pinna haud ignobilis* Chemn. His described and figured *Nerita reticulata* is therefore invalid, although it is listed in Sherborn's *Index Animalium* for 1758 to 1800, p. 825.

Quite recently (T. A. Garrard, 1961, p. 32)

erroneously credited the authorship of the genus *Turris* to P. L. S. Müller, 1766. Müller authored in 1766 a folio edition of *Knorr's Deliciae Naturae Selectae - Naturalien-Cabinet*, Nürnberg, vol. 1, 132 pp., with colored plates on mollusks. The molluscan names on page 129 in the explanations to the plates are binomial and would normally replace some well-known names in *Cypraea*, *Mitra*, *Voluta*, etc. Fortunately, Müller was merely quoting Rumphius' 1705 pre-Linnaean names, and, if one looks on page 128, one can find such polynomials as *Sertularia penata folliculis bidentatis* and *Corallium acarbaricum nigrum ramosum*. Incidentally, were Müller's name valid, the type species would be by monotypy and not by original designation as stated by Garrard. I believe the earliest author for *Turris* is Röding, 1798.

The fourth non-binomial work worth mentioning is the once-controversial *Index to Gronovius' Zoophylacium Gronovianum* published by F. C. Meuschen in 1781. It was rejected in Opinion 261 on August 10, 1954, by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

### Literature Cited

- Cate, Jean M.  
1960. Range extension and synonymy for *Mitra nigra* (Schröter, 1788). *The Veliger* 3 (2): 49-51.
- Garrard, T. A.  
1961. Mollusca collected by M. V. "Challenge" off the East Coast of Australia. *Journ. Malacol. Soc. Austral.* 5: 2-36.

## New Name for *Strombus granulatus* subsp. *acutus* DURHAM, 1950, not PERRY, 1811

BY

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Dr. Robert Robertson of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia has kindly called my attention to the fact that my *Strombus granulatus* subsp. *acutus* (1950, *Geol. Soc. America*, Mem. 43, pt. 2, p. 118, pl. 27, figs. 1, 2, and 5) from the Pliocene and Pleistocene of the Gulf of California, is a homonym of *Strombus acutus* Perry, 1811. Accordingly, my *acutus* is herein renamed *cortezianus*, after the "Sea of Cortez".

## The W. Mack Chiton Collection

BY

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A brief account of the Wilfred Mack collection of chitons, now preserved in part in the Mollusk and Invertebrate Zoology Collections at the California Academy of Sciences, may be of some value for future reference. Moreover, the circumstances under which the collection was made have some interesting aspects.

Mr. Wilfred Mack, a garden specialist in Pacific Grove, California, became interested in collecting chitons through friendship with the Rev. Elwood B. Hunter of Pacific Grove who had been collecting chitons in the Monterey area for some time and had become a specialist in knowing where and how to collect them. Although a beginner with no knowledge of chiton ecology, Mr. Mack soon became an expert collector himself under the tutelage of Elwood Hunter.

Mr. Mack was an enthusiastic collector — just how enthusiastic becomes evident on reading the notes he kept of his collecting activities. This forms a particularly valuable record which beginning conchologists all too often do not take the pains to prepare. These notes were pen-written in a 5 x 8 inch spiral-bound notebook. They begin (somewhat edited) as follows:

"1. On 12/12/40, Thursday — Day clear — low at 3:05 PM. Became interested in collecting chitons after seeing Elwood Hunter's collection. First trip with Elwood to rocks about 0.3 mile south of Pt. Joe [on the] 17-Mile Drive [Monterey Peninsula near Asilomar]. Tide about 0.3 ft. Have beginner's luck collecting: Mopalia ciliata, Tonicella lineata, Lepidozона mertensi (a lovely red-purple), Ischnochiton regularis (a perfect blue [rare color phase] and many others), Chaetopleura gemma (orange), Stenoplax heathiana (in quantity), one Basiliochiton heathi (red and green, Cyanoplax dentiens, Mopalia muscosa. Rocks granite — quite encrusted generally."

Chiton names in the above account have been changed to modern equivalents as Mr. Mack was not familiar at the time with chiton taxonomy or the correct spelling of specific names. This is unimportant and certainly no criticism of his excellent job of note-taking.

Mr. Mack's notes cover a total of 69 separate entries, beginning 12 December, 1940, and ending around 10 July, 1941. Just how persistent he was is attested by his almost continuous collecting efforts during moderate to low tide periods, day after day, rain or shine, and in heavy surf as well as in calm weather. Methods used were the usual ones for collecting chitons, especially small ones, by turning rocks and investigating their undersides carefully. A great deal of wading was done, occasionally out to shoulder depth in the cold water of the Monterey area, in order to bring in rocks from below the intertidal zone. Having done considerable collecting in the area myself over past years, I can vouch for the degree of hardihood this type of collecting demands without benefit of modern-day swim-suits worn by SCUBA divers!

Both Mack and Hunter had their favorite hunting spots in the area, especially along the western flank of the Monterey peninsula from Pt. Pinos (including the famous Great Tide Pool at Lighthouse Point) to Fan Shell Beach and Cypress Point. Another favorite spot was what they called the "Carmelite Intrusion", open seashore area extending for some distance along the shore of Carmel Bay beginning at the south end of the long Carmel sand beach. A few visits were made to the area between Yankee Point to the mouth of Malpaso Creek, south of Point Lobos, in the area now called the "Carmel Riviera." One entry reads as follows:

"60. May 22 - 23. Chas. Jones brings me in 2 rocks — and one on 23rd — taken about 3 miles out of slightly south of Pt. Joe at between 60-70 fathoms (300-400 ft.), rocks catching on [fishermen's set-line] hooks. 10 specimens (one white) mostly the same apparently."

The chitons from these rocks are of unusual interest as there are possibly two or more new species among them, illustrating the value of getting the cooperation of friendly fishermen.

Here is another interesting entry:

"23. Sat. Jan. 25 — Tide, -0.8 and plenty low. Do not have much time so go just inside gate of lighthouse reservation. WOW — find one black specimen with white stripe"